

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CARACA 00015 021857Z

44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00

OMB-01 /084 W

----- 044406

P R 021633Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7111

INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 0015

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, VE

SUBJ: PRESIDENT PEREZ CRITICIZES U.S. TRADE BILL IN NEW YEAR'S
ADDRESS

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. IN A LONG NEW YEAR'S ADDRESS IN CIUDAD GUAYANA DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO THE NATIONALIZATION OF VENEZUELA'S IRON MINES, PRESIDENT PEREZ SHARPLY CRITICIZED THE "DISCRIMINATORY" FEATURES OF THE U.S. TRADE BILL WHICH WOULD MAKE VENEZUELA INELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE GENERALIZED TRADE PREFERENCES. THE PRESIDENT DID NOT MENTION THE UNITED STATES BY NAME, BUT THE REFERENCE TO THE U.S. WAS CLEAR.

2. AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS REGARDING THE TRADE BILL FOLLOWS:

"THE FRIENDLY SENTIMENTS OF VENEZUELAN'S HAVE BEEN ABUSED IN THESE DAYS. THE NATION WHICH HAS BENEFITTED MOST FROM OUR RESOURCES, WITH WHICH WE HAVE TRADITIONALLY MAINTAINED THE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CARACA 00015 021857Z

BEST RELATIONS AND WITH WHICH WE HAVE SEEN OUR DESTINY ASSO-

CIATED, HAS MADE US THE OBJECT OF A DISCRIMINATORY LAW. IT PROPOSED A DIALOGUE WITH US AND OFFERED US A SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES BASED ON NON-RECIPROCITY AND ON NON-DISCRIMINATION. NOW WE ARE THREATENED WITH A LAW AND WITH A DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY PROVIDED ITS CHIEF OF STATE TO GRANT OR NOT TO GRANT US PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT, WHILE VENEZUELA WITHOUT HAGGLING AND WITHOUT SELFISHNESS HAS BEEN A FAITHFUL SUPPLIER OF PETROLEUM AND IRON OVER SEVERAL DECADES, AND HAS BEEN AN UNCONDITIONAL ALLY IN THE DIFFICULT PERIODS THROUGH WHICH THAT GREAT NATION HAS LIVED.

"ACTIONS SUCH AS THIS OFFEND OUR COUNTRY, DO NOT OPEN AVENUES FOR UNDERSTANDING AND CREATE A CLIMATE OF CONFRONTATION AND THREATEN WORLD PEACE. WE DENOUNCE IT WITH FRANKNESS, AND WITH A SPIRIT OF HARMONY AND OF REACHING UNDERSTANDING WITH THE GREAT NATIONS ON A BASIS OF MUTUAL RESPECT AND AUTHENTIC EQUALITY."

END UNCLASSIFIED. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

4. COMMENT: PRESIDENT PEREZ'S COMMENT ON THE U.S. TRADE LAW WAS THE ONLY ACERBIC PORTION OF AN OTHERWISE MODERATE SPEECH CELEBRATING THE NEW YEAR AND MARKING THE PRIDEFUL OCCASION OF THE NATIONALIZATION OF VENEZUELAN IRON MINES. ALTHOUGH HIS COMMENTS WERE SHARPLY WORDED, THE PRESIDENT AVOIDED REMARKS WHICH WOULD INDICATE THAT VENEZUELA PLANS SOME SPECIFIC RETALIATORY ACTION.

5. IN OTHER PARTS OF THE SPEECH WHICH WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY, THE PRESIDENT EMPHASIZED THE BENEFITS THAT IRON ORE SUPPLY CONTRACTS WITH U.S. STEEL AND BETHLEHEM STEEL WILL BRING TO THE COUNTRY AND VENEZUELA'S INTENTION TO AVOID INTERNATIONAL CONFRONTATION AND THE USE OF ITS RESOURCES IN AN ARBITRARY WAY. IN THE EVENT OF ANOTHER OIL EMBARGO OR SIMILAR SHORTAGE, HOWEVER, VENEZUELA MIGHT WELL CONSIDER ITSELF RELIEVED OF ANY OBLIGATION TO CONTINUE TO SUPPLY THE UNITED STATES WITH SCARCE RAW MATERIALS. IT CAN ALSO BE ANTICIPATED THAT VENEZUELA WILL REDOUBLE ITS EFFORTS TO SEEK TRADE CONTACTS WITH OTHER NATIONS IN ORDER TO DIVERSIFY ITS TRADE AND DECREASE ITS DEPENDENCE ON THE UNITED STATES.

END COMMENT.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CARACA 00015 021857Z

MCCLINTOCK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE LAW, CHIEF OF STATE, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CARACA00015
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750002-0875
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750183/aaaacusx.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 SEP 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT PEREZ CRITICIZES U.S. TRADE BILL IN NEW YEARS'S ADDRESS
TAGS: ETRD, VE, US, (PEREZ, CARLOS ANDRES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006